

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

1. The rejection of Claims 1-6, 11, 13-20 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention, has been overcome in view of the amendments to instant claim 1 (see Amendment of 4/29/2009). Claim 1 has been amended in accordance with the instant specification (page 8, lines 4-15), wherein only the substituent R^R is an antibiotic or an antiproliferative therapeutic agent connected through the linker Z. R^c, R^d, R^e are not connected via the linker Z.
2. The closest prior art of record, Morgan (WO 95/27723) teaches a cobalamin derivative (structure in Figure 8) wherein the substitution R2 at position d is an amine or hydroxyl or a diamine attached via a linker and the -CH₂OH on the ribose moiety is unsubstituted. The instant compound of structural formula (I) has an antibiotic or an antiproliferative therapeutic agent attached to any three of these positions through a linker or spacer-chelator groups of formulae (II)-(IX). Morgan in combination with Gijsen and List however, does not teach or render obvious the cobalamin derivatives of instant formula (I) and the method diagnosis of neoplastic disease in a mammal as instantly claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by the applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Shaojia A. Jiang,
Supervisory Patent Examiner in Art Unit 1623 at 571-272-0627.

/Shaojia Anna Jiang/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1623